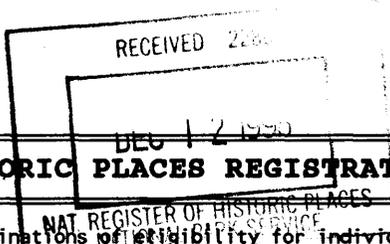


1536



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in "Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Archibald Mewborn House
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Wakefield Farm Road (private)
city, town Hartwell (x) vicinity of
county Hart code 147
state Georgia code GA zip code 30643

(N/A) not for publication

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property:

	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>
buildings	1	0
sites	0	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	1	0

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Mark R. Edwards
Signature of certifying official

12/06/96
Date

Mark R. Edwards
State Historic Preservation Officer,
Historic Preservation Division,
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

In my opinion, the property () meets () does not meet the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

Edson H. Beall 1-9-97

() determined eligible for the National Register

() determined not eligible for the National Register

() removed from the National Register

() other, explain:

() see continuation sheet

bea Signature, Keeper of the National Register Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

Domestic: single dwelling

Current Functions:

Domestic: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

OTHER: central-hallway log house

Materials:

foundation	stone
walls	wood
roof	metal
other	log, weatherboard

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Archibald Mewborn House is located on an unpaved rural lane south of Hartwell in Hart County, Georgia. Currently, it is a one-story, three-bay, frame house with a central-hall plan and a rear ell. The house is set on fieldstone and block piers and is clad in weatherboard. The side-gabled roof is flanked by two stone and brick gable-end chimneys and is covered with sheet metal. The full-width front porch extends across the main facade. Six-over-six-light sash windows are located throughout the house and the main entrance includes a three-panel multi-light door. The shed-roofed front porch features a covered entry and enclosed "preacher rooms" at each end. The gable-roofed rear ell is built of hewn logs joined with half-dovetail notches (The logs are visible in the attic). Engaged porches on both sides of the ell extend the full width of the main block.

The interior plan of the house comprises a central hall with entrances to a parlor and dining room and passage to the rear ell, whose main room is the largest interior space in the house and now serves as a kitchen. In addition to these four principal spaces, several porches and smaller rooms are joined to the main block and rear ell. Two small preacher rooms located on the front porch provide sleeping quarters. Only south preacher room includes direct access to the interior of the house. A third chamber forms the enclosed portion of the full-width porch located on the north side of the ell. This small room is entered from the parlor and includes a closet. The south side of the ell features a full-width porch. An enclosed stair along the south wall of the ell provides access to the attic.

The plain interior finish retains a high level of historic integrity. The walls are clad in horizontal sheathing of uneven widths. The floors and ceilings are also constructed of wood sheathing. A variety of doors are found throughout the house includes vertical-plank, two-

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7

and four-panel, and multi-light doors. Both fireplace surrounds are plainly finished, though the parlor surround features two decorative panels and a corbelled shelf.

The Mewborn house is located in a rural area, with agriculture among the predominant local industries. The house is located in a clearing that was part of a much larger complex of open fields and pasture lands. Much of the surrounding area remains under cultivation, but some nearby fields have been left to form an undergrowth to encourage the development of game bird populations.

The Archibald Mewborn property includes seven mature oak, pecan, and mulberry trees that surround the house. Historic plantings include Glossy Abelia, Althea, Cherokee Rose, Chinaberry, and Japanese Honeysuckle.

No outbuildings associated with the house survive and the National Register boundary does not include any contributing resources except for the house. In 1984, a barn that was located fifty yards south of the house was destroyed by fire. In addition, a small cemetery with nine unidentified graves is located on the east side of Wakefield Farm Road, approximately 100 yards north of the Mewborn house. The graves are marked with fieldstones and may include the graves of Archibald and Faitha Mewborn and other family members. At the request of the property owner, the cemetery was not included within the National Register boundary.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

Architecture

Period of Significance:

c.1810-1865

Significant Dates:

c.1810 - Mewborn house constructed as single-pen log dwelling.
1825-1865 - shed additions added to north and south sides.
c.1860 - central-hall cottage built on west facade of log dwelling.

Significant Person(s):

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

N/A

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8

Significance of property, justification of criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Archibald Mewborn House is significant under the theme of architecture as an intact example of a 19th-century house in rural Georgia that had two distinct construction phases, each representing building technologies and building types popular in their day. The Mewborn house demonstrates how buildings evolved in response to changing economic and social factors. As farmers and their succeeding generations increased their land holdings and their wealth, it was common to build a substantial new house in the current architectural style while relegating the smaller first generation dwelling to the rear of the house.

Constructed c.1810 as a single-pen log dwelling, the Mewborn house represents the first period of settlement in Hart County and is an early surviving example of a settler's dwelling. It comprises a basic one-room plan that could be quickly assembled and added to with little difficulty. The single-pen plan and hewn log and half-dovetail construction are characteristic features of early domestic architecture in North Georgia. Most extant single-pen dwellings have been altered with additions.

By 1860, Archibald's son, Martin Marion Mewborn, resided in the house and operated prosperous farm that included large land holdings and four slaves. It was also at about this time that Martin built a central-hall cottage against the west facade of the log dwelling, nearly doubling the size of the house. The single-pen dwelling formed the rear ell of the cottage. The fashionable and expensive central-hall cottage not only provided Martin Mewborn with more living space, but also served as an expression of his increasing economic status and demonstrated that his taste in architecture remained current with the popular styles of the period.

The central-hall plan cottage was built in Georgia throughout the 19th century. This building type features a central hall or passage between two rooms. In most cases, the houses include a side-gabled roof and gable-end chimneys. The central entrance and gable-end chimneys featured the balance and symmetry popular during the Colonial and Federal periods. Central-hall dwellings are evenly distributed across Georgia, mainly appearing on farmsteads and on principal residential streets in towns and cities. Most example were built between 1830 and 1930, with clusters occurring in the periods 1840 to 1860 and 1870 to 1890.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 8

National Register Criteria

C

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

N/A

Period of significance (justification)

The c.1810-1865 period of significance represents the period in which the Archibald Mewborn House was built as a single-pen log dwelling c.1810 and progressed to a central hall-plan house with preacher rooms c.1865. During this period, the Mewborn house attained the characteristics that qualify it for listing in the National Register.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

Developmental history/historic context (if applicable)

Archibald Mewborn, who built the Archibald Mewborn House in Elbert County (now Hart County), Georgia, was born in 1781 in North Carolina. Circa 1805, Mewborn married Faitha Shepherd, a native of South Carolina, and between 1805 and 1832, Archibald and Faitha had 12 children. Mewborn arrived in Georgia between 1803 and 1806.

Between c.1809 and 1819, Mewborn acquired approximately 700 acres among four discontinuous tracts of land in Hart County, a large holding for a single individual in northeast Georgia at the beginning of the 19th century. In 1812, Archibald Mewborn purchased the 181-1/2-acre tract on which he built his house, but the land was identified as being in Mewborn's possession as early as 1809.

Archibald Mewborn probably built his house between 1810 and 1812. It was a single-pen log dwelling constructed of massive pine beams and joined together with half-dovetail notches. Between 1825 and 1865, the shed additions were added to the front and rear of the dwelling, significantly increasing the amount the space available in the house.

After Mewborn's death in 1857, the property was passed to his youngest son, Martin Marion Mewborn. The 1860 Slave Census lists Martin as

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8

owning four slaves. It was also at this time, c.1860, that the house was drastically altered with the addition of a central-hall cottage with two end chimneys. The new frame addition nearly doubled the size of the dwelling and changed the manner in which the interior spaces of the house were used. The central-hall cottage, which was built against the west facade of the log dwelling, formed the new main block of the house, with a central hall and two heated rooms that could alternatively be used as public rooms or bedrooms. The log dwelling served as the rear ell and probably contained the kitchen functions. Following the Civil War, the two ends of the front porch were enclosed. These preacher rooms were only accessible from the porch and were probably built to accommodate guests or travelers.

The house remained in the Mewborn family for three generations following Archibald Mewborn. Martin Marion Mewborn (1832-1924) passed the property to his son, Mackey Curtis Mewborn (1879-1966), who passed it on to his son, Joe Curtis Mewborn. In 1940, Benjamin Dove purchased the property and resided there until his death in 1980. The house remained vacant until 1988, when the current owner, Asa R. Phillips, purchased the house and 90.10 acres, roughly half of the original Mewborn tract.

Early farms in Hart County and throughout northeast Georgia mostly practiced subsistence farming with a variety of crops and livestock. Typically, corn was grown in the bottom lands as food for the livestock. Wheat, rye, oats, barley, and tobacco were also cultivated in this region. The 1860 Hart County Agricultural Census identifies Martin Mewborn as owning one, horse, three milk cows, five other cattle, two oxen, 15 sheep, and 12 pigs. During 1860, the Mewborn family produced 40 bushels of wheat, 2690 bushels of corn, 400 pounds of ginned cotton, 15 pounds of beans, 28 pounds of wool, 10 pounds of Irish potatoes, 60 pounds of sweet potatoes, and 100 pounds of butter. The Dove family continued subsistence farming on the property. In addition, the Doves raised cotton until the early 1970s, followed by wheat and soybeans.

The house sustained only minor alterations since its construction c.1810. After acquiring the house in 1940, the Dove family installed a well pump and plumbing, electrical wiring, kitchen cabinets, and added a screened porch. Between 1992 and 1995, Asa Phillips rehabilitated the house according to the Secretary of the Interior's "Standards for Rehabilitation" under the Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit program. The rehabilitation included work to stabilize the building, reopening screened porches, and restoring interior woodwork.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Butler, Scott. Historic Property Information Form. June 1991.
On file at the Division of Historic Preservation, Georgia
Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia, with
supplemental information.

Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural
Resources. Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in their
Landscaped Settings. Atlanta: Historic Preservation Section,
Georgia Department of Natural Resources, 1991.

"The Mewborn Family House, Hart County, Georgia." A report by
graduate students at the University of Georgia. [Athens, Georgia:
University of Georgia, 1988(?)].

Previous documentation on file (NPS): (x) N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)
has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # The Mewborn
house was recorded for HABS in 1989 but the three sheets of drawings
were not submitted and the project was not issued a HABS number.
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other, Specify Repository:

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 3.1 acres

UTM References

A) Zone 17 Easting 319770 Northing 3790890

Verbal Boundary Description

The property boundary is indicated by a heavy black line on the attached map, drawn to scale.

Boundary Justification

The Archibald Mewborn tract, which originally included 181-1/2 acres during the early 19th century, has since been subdivided. At the request of the owner, the National Register nomination includes only 3.10 acres. The property included in this nomination retains a high level of historic integrity.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Steven H. Moffson, Architectural Historian
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of
Natural Resources
street & number 500 The Healey Building, 57 Forsyth St., NW
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** November 1, 1996

Consultant services Scott Butler (Dallas, Georgia)

(OHP form version 12-08-93)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

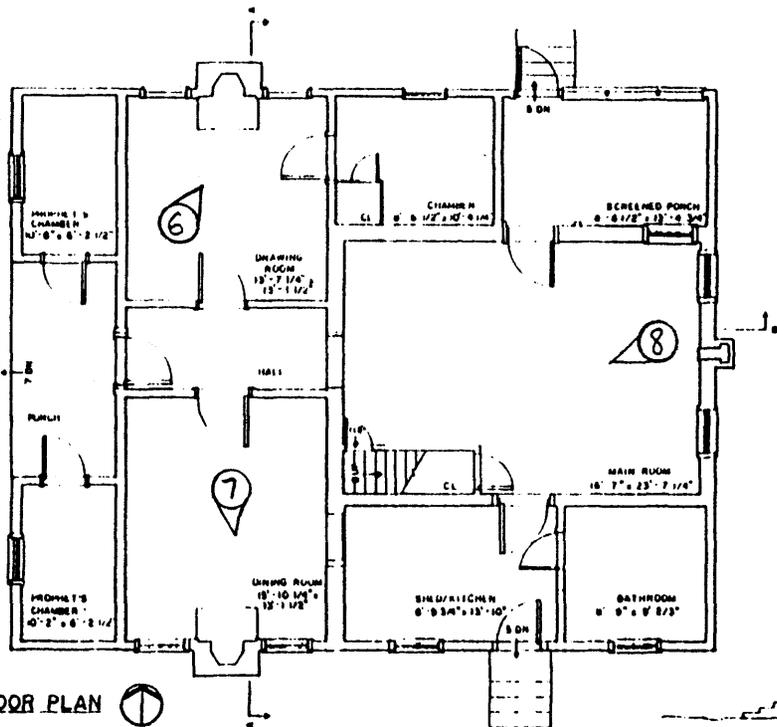
Name of Property: Archibald Mewborn House
City or Vicinity: Hartwell
County: Hart
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: December 1995

Description of Photograph(s):

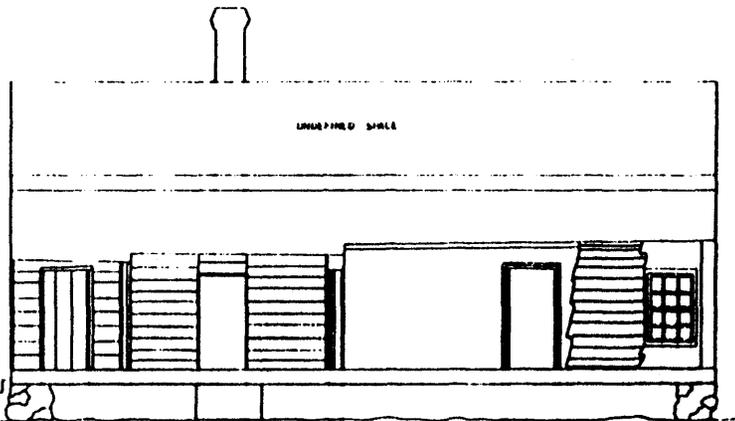
1. Archibald Mewborn House, photographer facing south.
2. Main facade, photographer facing east.
3. Main and south facades, photographer facing northeast.
4. Rear and south facades, photographer facing northwest.
5. Rear and north facades, photographer facing southwest.
6. Interior, north parlor, photographer facing northeast.
7. Interior, south parlor, photographer facing south.
8. Interior, rear ell, photographer facing east.
9. Interior, attic above rear ell, photographer facing east.

1

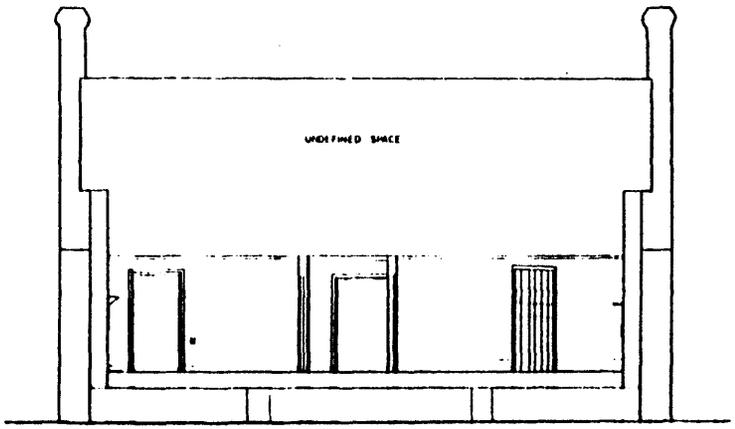
5



MAIN FLOOR PLAN



SECTION B-B'



SECTION A-A'

4 ARCHIBALD MEWBORN HOUSE
 HARTWELL VICINITY, HART CO., GEORGIA
 MAIN FLOOR PLAN AND SECTIONS
 PHOTOGRAPH/DIRECTION OF VIEW

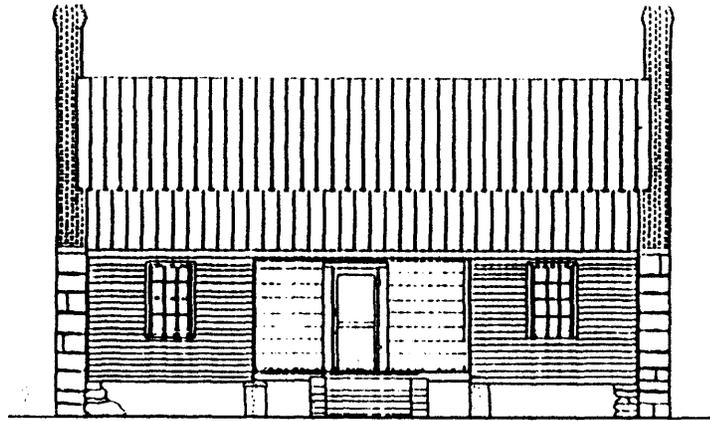
NORTH



SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

NEWBORNE HOMESTEAD
 OLD COUNTY ROAD 66 - HART COUNTY - GEORGIA

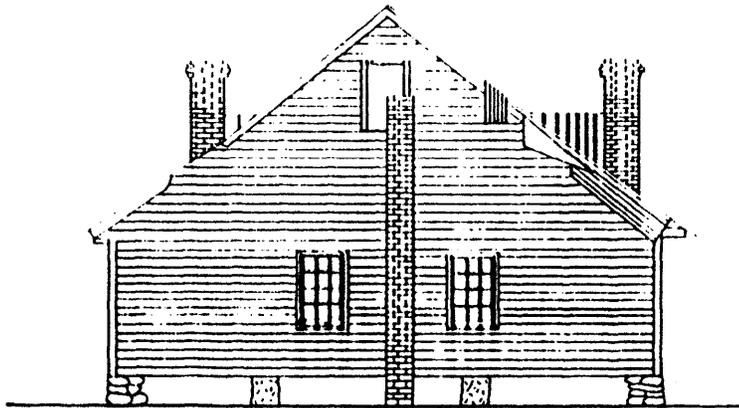
ARCHIBALD MEWBORN HOUSE
 HARTWELL VICINITY, HART CO., GEORGIA
 NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, & WEST ELEVATIONS



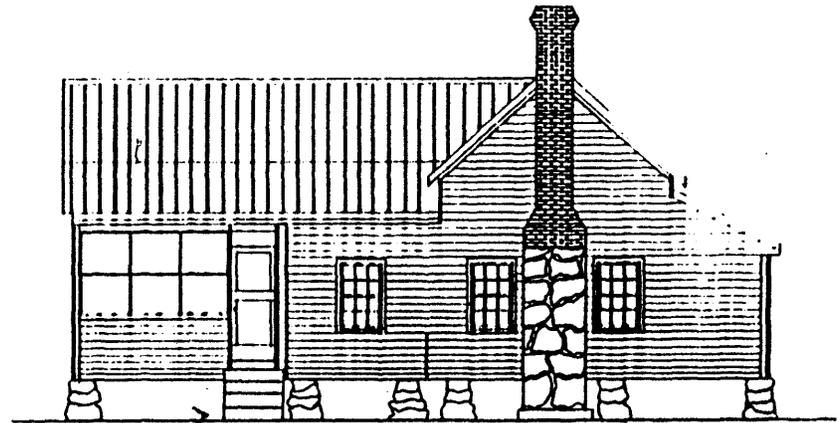
WEST ELEVATION



SOUTH ELEVATION



EAST ELEVATION



NORTH ELEVATION

SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

NEWBORNE HOMESTEAD
 OLD COUNTY ROAD 14 - HART COUNTY - GEORGIA
 ARCHIBALD MEWBORN HOUSE
 DRAWN BY
 1919

